

Issue #2
May 2015

GOOD ON PAPER

A free monthly guide to Music, Art,
Theatre & Literature in Stroud

Photo: James Kriszyk

**THE
PRINCE ALBERT
RODBOROUGH HILL, STROUD**

BEER FEST

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APR 31ST - MAY 4TH

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EDITORS' NOTE

WELCOME TO THE SECOND ISSUE OF GOOD ON PAPER - YOUR NEW FREE MONTHLY GUIDE TO MUSIC CONCERTS, ART EXHIBITIONS, THEATRE PRODUCTIONS AND LITERATURE EVENTS IN STROUD...

For this month's issue we've had a little more time to focus in on the design so you may notice some small changes and improvements. We have also amassed a new horde of contributing writers including Jess Bracey, Helen Elliott-Boult, Siobain Drury and Jamie Baldwin, all providing you with in-depth information on arts festivals, a time-honoured local record shop and a soon to be released anthology of short stories featuring the work of over fifty authors.

They join our regular theatre columnist John Bassett from Spaniel in the Works Theatre Company and our resident photographer James Kriszyk.

In other news we are happy to announce that Good On Paper will be curating an event as part of this year's Stroud Fringe Festival! Due to take place in the grand Centre for Science and Art building on Lansdown we will be putting together an evening of music, art, theatre and literature representing each section of the magazine. More info coming soon...

Remember to keep sending us your listings, requests and general musings - we like to read.

Alex and Adam



ALEX HOBBS
EDITOR



ADAM HINKS
DESIGNER



DO YOU REMEMBER YOUR FIRST TIME? THE FIRST TIME YOU TOOK YOUR HARD-EARNED CASH TO INVEST IN YOUR FAVOURITE ARTIST, GRASPED THEIR LABOUR OF LOVE IN THE FORM OF A VINYL, MERRILY SKIPPED HOME AND SAT ON YOUR OWN FOR HOURS STARING AT THIS AUDIBLE PIECE OF ART GOING ROUND AND ROUND ON YOUR RECORD PLAYER?

For Simon Vincent at Trading Post Records in Stroud this memory is more prevalent than most. "I was two and a half and I asked for an album by T-Rex," he says while reminiscing about the time his guitar actions were caught on camera at the tender age. He'd known about Trading Post Records since he was 14 and always said to himself that one day he would buy that shop. "It started in 1977 by a lady called Jo Walters who worked for Chrysalis Records in London. She hopped on the train one day, happened to get off at Stroud and thought... yeah this is a cool place, I could sit under a tree and read poetry, but wondered how to make a living. She had quite a large record collection from working in the industry so she took a little shop at the top of Nelson Street and started selling her record collection. She was one of the first people in Gloucestershire to start punk properly and that's how the shop took off."

This similar passion for vinyl eventually drove Simon to take the helm of Gloucestershire's oldest record shop. But it wasn't an opportunity for Simon to jump on the band wagon following the resurgence of vinyl which has seen albums reach a 20 year high in sales, oh no, Simon invested in Trading Post Records with thanks to a throw away comment. "I took it over in February 2001 and by that time Jo had built a very good customer base. One day I walked past the shop and noticed that she wasn't there. I asked where Jo was and someone said oh she's a bit tired and

jokingly I said I'll buy the shop off her. We had a meeting that evening and Jo said...Simon, I've been looking for a husband for my baby for some time now, and you're the man. And that was it. I'd never worked in a shop before in my life and yet I had just taken on this record store, mainly because I was passionate about it and loved it and I think that's why it's survived in modern times."

So rewind back to 2001. Tapes had died a death, CDs were at their prime and digital was on its way. Where did the vinyl stand in all this? "In music shops you would only see a tiny section of 20 or 30 vinyls. From the get go I thought...I own a record shop, it hasn't got any records, I'm a vinyl freak, the quality of vinyl will show through because of collectors like me." Based on a system where traders come to the store with their hoards of records, Simon stores the vinyls, rehouses them, and sells the records on the trader's behalf on a commission basis - hence the name Trading Post. "We now do this for about 350 people and have about 60,000 records in the shop. Vinyl has been growing for the past 15 years, that's why I saw an investment opportunity; it's only recently that we've seen the spike."

Now in its eight year, Record Store Day has been a driving force behind this comeback of vinyl, introducing younger generations to a musical experience their digitally-tuned ears are not accustomed to,

turning them into a new wave of collectors. 2015 is certainly the year of the vinyl and its popularity has been so strong that a vinyl chart has been reintroduced. In April All Time Low topped the first album chart since its reignition, but for Simon's customers in Stroud, their buying habits are a little different. "On record store day last year people were queuing outside at 10 o'clock the night before. The two big releases at the moment though which are popular here are The Prodigy and a new artist called Courtney Barnett, that is a phenomenal album." As well as sharing that mutual appreciation of music, Simon sincerely enjoys the company too. "Stroud vinyl heads are a great bunch of people no matter what genre of music they're into. They're very respectful of the shop, they're a lovely bunch of people to work with and that's why I've been doing it for as long as I have because I enjoy their company. I'm constantly learning from them as well. I'm very grateful to Stroud for having such a rich cultural appreciative community. I don't just love music, I love the shop and I love Stroud."

Jess Bracey works with BBC Radio Gloucestershire, BBC Introducing in the West and is also a writer who loves nothing more than indulging in local music. She's reported from Glastonbury Festival, Maida Vale Studios and has co-presented with Phill Jupitus off the telly. Music is her muse and Stroud is her playground

Trading Post

Tel: 0145

“

I'M VERY GRATEFUL TO STROUD FOR HAVING SUCH A RICH CULTURAL APPRECIATIVE COMMUNITY. I DON'T JUST LOVE MUSIC, I LOVE THE SHOP AND I LOVE STROUD.

MUSIC LISTINGS

Join our YouTube Playlist...

Each month we bring you our youtube playlist featuring artists taken from our music listings...

To access the playlist, type the below into your search engine. Enjoy.

Good On Paper Playlist May



Ale House

2ND Thee Ones

Maximus R & B, Swamp Boogaloo! Thee Ones play a rare Acoustic Set, full of twisted grooves & vintage vibes. Hard driven echoes of Capt. Beefheart 8:30pm Free

21TH - 25TH The Ale House Beer Festival

The Ale House first Beer Cider & Music Festival of the year, this time highlighting the vast array of 'New World Hop' beers

22ND Steve & The Achievers

Upbeat Soul, Lowdown Blues, Rock n' Roll & Gospel!! 8.30pm Free (Beer Festival)

23RD The Modern Vintage

Classic covers, new and old! 8.30pm Free (Beer Festival)

24TH Jim Reynolds

Legendary songwriter, guitarist and singer of blues, ragtime and old fashioned ballads 3.30pm Free (Beer Festival)

24TH The Hawds

Weaving together an accomplished mix of rock, funk, country & jazz 8.30pm Free (Beer Festival)

Centre For Science and Art

7TH/14TH/21ST Singing Out Stroud

Local choir singing rounds, part-songs, short songs and a variety of material that can be learned by ear. They occasionally perform for friends and family during their twice-yearly Sharings event. A friendly, inclusive and accessible choir for all!

Contact melaniegolding23@gmail.com for further info 8-9:30pm

The Crown and Sceptre

1ST The Wizards of Delight

Rock and Roll as never seen before...Involves Capes and Pointed hats! 8:30pm Free

2ND Prehab

8:30pm Free

8TH Ragged Edge Soul Band

Good time Soul band 8:30pm Free

9TH Taepped

Melodic Modern Folk with Fiddle and Harp 8:30pm Free

15TH Men Diamler

6music sessioneer and perennial West Country troubadour that refuses to die quietly. The disputed

offspring of Iggy Pop, Jacques Brel and John Otway 8:30pm Free

22ND S J Esau + MEGABATS

A Bristol double header! S J Esau: Prickly, experimental, pop nonsense & MEGABATS - a kick ass rock n roll band with slight funky tendencies 8:30pm Free

28TH Rodda's Hairy Craic

Irish Acoustic Night with Tim Potts 8:30pm Free

29TH The Ruzz Guitar Blues Revue

Rockabilly 8:30pm Free

30TH Otis Mack and the Tubby Blusters

Rock & Roll, Soul and R & B 8:30pm Free

thecrownandsceptrestroud.com

Kings Head

9TH Headstock Music Festival

An evening of live music including originals and covers band Lethal High, Blues-Rock covers band Nun The Weiser, and originals band The Layers. Full bar with outside food and drinks stalls Free 6pm-till late

The Prince Albert

APRIL 31ST - MAY 4TH

May Bank Holiday Beer Festival:

31ST The Bonfire Radicals

Hailing from Birmingham, The Bonfire Radicals are a powerful live act of eight musicians inspired by the Folk and World scene. Weaving Klezmer inspiration and Scottish fiddles with hard hitting guitar and intoxicating tunes, this fiery lot are well respected by both other musicians and loved by gig goers 8:30-11pm Free

1ST Jasper in The Company of Others

Everybody happy vibe, folkpop lying on the beach or hanging out in the woods with a few bottles on chill and a hamper of food and friends..that's the message the Prince Albert have received from folks that know this band and seen them perform nationally recently while their following gets bigger and firmer. A real get up and dance band, especially with a few exceptional beers on board 8:30-11pm Free

2ND Duncan Disorderly and the Scally Wag

Duncan Disorderly & the Scallywags have been spotted at nearly every UK festival and It's non stop for the Scallywags travelling on the road has become a way of

life. With exceptional influences from Latin and Reggae to Gypsy and Swing/Jazz; charismatic Duncan and his Scallywags never fail to entertain 8-11pm Free

3RD NECK

Taking their lead, both musically & ideologically, from the other mighty London rebel bands – The Pogues and The Clash – NECK ‘carry the torch’ a stage further with their own, unique LondonIrish brew of wild, swirling Traditional Irish music & raucous, full-on Punk Rock : rip-roaring, irrepressible ‘Psycho-Ceilidh’ rock inhabiting their very special niche rich in trad Irish tunes but with a strong modern day punk ethic 8-11pm Free

4TH The Jagged Ostrich

Raising money for National Star College. Curated by Kitten & Bear, with music from Bad News, Malika Roots, Silent Disco and special guests. Very Special Guests. 5pm-till late Suggested donation £5

6TH Rory McLeod

Rory is always an absolute treat – tales of broken families, real love and of a travelling man – a true troubadour. A multi-instrumentalist with an ear for a tune and incorporating the whole world in his songs 8-11pm £8 adv/£10 otd

7TH Balloon Ascents

Election night special – produce your polling card for a free half. None of that Russell Brand rubbish here. Balloon Ascents are an indie 5 piece – indie pop, folk, alternative and electronic with a bit of misty eyed melancholia 8:30pm-Open all night for up to the minute Election results Free

8TH Renny Jackson

Renny has learnt his trade growing up around Seville playing in a modern Spanish guitar style – tonight playing with his bassist. Pizzas will be served from 6pm in the courtyard 8:30pm Free

9TH The Barefoot Bandit

Devonshire British Dub/Reggae of the very highest order- playing the best festivals and the odd pub too 8:30-11pm Free

10TH Stroud and Gloucester Vinyl Connection

An event where lovers of vinyl can get together to play, listen and trade vinyl! 5-11pm Free

13TH Open Mic

All welcome to the best and longest running Open Mic night in the Five Valleys 8-11pm Free

16TH Herptiles Rock 2

An evening organised by GLOSArg (Glos Amphibian and Reptile Group.). With music from Chinese Burn, 2Sick Monkeys, Thee Tiger Tun-Tens and Gav&Nat. All proceeds will be used in the conservation of these local mini beasts 12-4pm Free

17TH M A R I N E

Returning to the Prince Albert to perform songs from their new EP. Described by Drunkern Werewolf magazine as ‘...a soulful, powerful blend of intricate guitars parts and dextrously interwoven vocals London based all female outfit M A R I N E are rather special’ – we think so too 8-10:30pm Free

20TH Dingus Khan

“‘It’s like music, far away music’ said the mole nodding drowsily. “Except it isn’t far away..they are here – on a Wednesday, and they are really quite special. The Prince Albert spotted them at Latitude last year on the Rising Stars stage with James Bay and Years & Years. Whatever happened to them? 8:30-11pm Free

21ST Kent Du Chaine

Kent travels the world with his much loved steel slide guitar Leadbessie gathering more and more fans with tales of woe, love and the Blues. Bank holiday treat

with cool sounds in the yard while Hot Feet spin the pizzas in the Chadwick Ovens 8:30-11pm Free

23RD Catfish

Catfish are a new Bristol Based blues band, featuring amongst others Neil Smith of This Is the Kit and Errols Kitchen as well as The Prince Albert’s NYE Superband Helele 8:30-11pm Free

24TH Worry Dolls

Originally a duo the Indie Folk girls who Lottie initially bonded over their hair colour have collected a few musician and are now playing as a band – without losing their sublime harmonies and tongue in cheek freshness 8-10:30pm Free

26TH Brooke Sharkey and Adam Beattie

Brooke really is one of those artists that brings an audience to their knees – her amazing voice skips between delicate English idiosyncrasies to a cascade of dancing French lilt – all the while playing some perfect guitar – playing with her long time partner and collaborator Adam on bass... 8:30-11pm Free

27TH Open Mic with Tiny Hill

All welcome on the popular Albert stage. All ages are welcome and help will be given to newcomers 8-11pm Free

29TH White City Shakers

Foot stomping rhythm and blues from the west country – old time rockabilly two step .Leading the blue grass revival in the West Country this seven piece do have beards, and a washboard but these are quickly forgiven as you dream of moonshine , cider and lonesome whistles 8-11pm Free

30TH Sam Green and the Midnight Heist

Recently heard on BBC Introducing was Sam Bonham describing this band as one of the best gigs he

had ever seen in Stroud, and the guys are back at The Prince Albert for a spectacular free gig again tonight. ‘Kicking out the folk blues jams!’ SB BBC 8-11pm Free theprincealbertstroud.co.uk

Stratford Park Bandstand

24TH Jazz Friday

Local Big Band playing two 50 minute sets of BB standards and numbers from the Great American Songbook. 2:30pm Free. jazzfriday.co.uk

St Laurence’s Church

21ST Johnny Coppin w/ Paul Burgess

The founder-member of acclaimed folk band Decameron returns to Stroud with one of England’s finest fiddle-players. He is also the presenter of The Acoustic Music Show on BBC Radio Gloucestershire 7:30pm £14 Tickets available from Stroud TIC johnnycoppin.co.uk

Stroud Brewery

2ND Seth Bye and Katie Griffin

A multi-instrumental folk duo that blur the edges between traditional music and contemporary styles. Their diversity in style ranges from jazz to Indian classical, all embraced with a folk twist. They are causing quite a stir and have entranced the audience at previous visits to the brewery, come and see what all the fuss is about! 7:30-10pm Free

9TH James Cheseldine

Acoustic set from local singer songwriter 7:30pm Free

16TH Dark Island

A duo performing British acoustic music - traditional and original folk, blues, jazz and a few covers. Sharing lead and harmony vocals with guitar, flute saxophones and bouzouki. 7:30-10pm Free

23RD Stretch

Stretch opens his American songbook and combines warm harmonica melodies and acoustic guitar to recollect folk and country favourites of Americana, from Neil young to Johnny Cash, John Denver to Gordon Lightfoot... 7:30-10pm Free
stroudbrewery.co.uk

Subscription Rooms**1ST** O'Hooley & Tidow

Previous winners of the MOJO Folk Album of the Year award for 'the Hum', O'Hooley & Tidow are regarded as lionhearted trailblazers of contemporary music and song writing, having the originality and skill to invite comparison with the most celebrated harmony duos, from early Simon and Garfunkel to the iconic Kate and Anna McGarrigle 8pm £12adv

7TH The Orchestra of St John's

Returning to the Sub Rooms following last year's highly successful concerts which culminated in a lively Messiah in December, performing a programme of two very well known works for strings, combined with a lesser known miniature masterpiece by Ottorino Respighi 'Il Tramonto' 7:30pm £14

8TH The Wurzels & Skimmity Hitchers

Celebrate the springtime in true cider-quaffing style! Having recently been signed by label heavyweight Columbia and EMI, the Wurzels continue to play over 100 sell-out shows every year, including festivals such as Bestival, Glastonbury and Guilfest 8pm £14adv

9TH Global Beats

Spinning groovy tunes from around the world, DJs JagP, Sam CS and Camillo EM bring you a heady mix of exotica beats 9pm Free Entry Mr Twitchetts

14TH Keith James: The Songs of Nick Drake

A number of years have now passed since singer/guitarist Keith James paralysed the whole country with his beautiful series of concerts The Songs of Nick Drake. In 2001 he was the first artists to bring this immaculate and fragile music to theatres in its live concert from resulting in a decade of acclaimed tours amounting to over 1000 concerts across the UK and Europe 8pm £12

15TH Bookends: Simon and Garfunkel – Through the Years

Following a sell-out run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival Bookends are back on tour with their moving and powerful live performance and multimedia show taking a chronological journey through the friendship and career of Simon & Garfunkel 7:30pm £14

16TH Magnificent AK47 + The Croutons

The music of the Magnificent AK47 covers the whole musical spectrum from serious Georgian choral pieces to daft Caribbean doggerel whilst dressed as pirates, all of which they occasionally perform in public to great acclaim. Support comes from the Edinburgh award winning The Croutons 8pm £8adv

17TH Gloucestershire Symphony Orchestra

The GSO are more than a century old but its sights are firmly set on appealing to the young at this matinee children's concert. The program will include Peter and the Wolf by Prokofiev with BBC narrator Richard Atkin, as well as three favourites from the BBC's ten pieces repertoire for primary schools. 3pm £10

30TH Goldie Lookin' Chain

Having released their brand new album 'Kings of Caerleon' the ultimate welsh rascals bring their infamous and totally infectious brand of 'not too serious' hip-hop to Stroud 8pm £13
subscriptionrooms.org.uk

SVA**1ST** John Street Social Club: Andy Holden and Secluded Brontë

Secluded Brontë (Bohman Brothers with Richard Thomas) with Andy Holden (The Grubby Mitts) present a concert of live music from the work in progress film, Brontë Country. £1 membership on the door 7-11pm (Site Festival)

2ND Disco Sucks

Full Disco Sucks crew playing interesting disco and unusual house. Or take a breather with some slower sounds in the Balearic Box upstairs. £6adv from Trading Post £8otd 9pm-till late (Site Festival)

7TH Michelson Morley - Jazz Trio

Melodic, atmospheric, minimalist music featuring the best of Bristol's jazz scene in the form of Will Harris on bass, Mark Whitlam on drums, with special guest Dan Messore on guitar Goods Shed 8:30-11pm £6adv from Trading Post £8otd

8TH/15TH/17TH/29TH John Street Social Club

A series of weekly Friday night club socials hosted by different artists each week, with visuals and audio to share. The format: decks, laptop, and a limited number of selected youtube clips of archive footage and informative curiosities...7-11pm £1 membership on the door

9TH The Sea Slugs

The Sea Slugs' unique music is borne out of a collective condemnation of intolerance, a strong sense of solidarity with fellow humans, and a passion for

the music of Fela Kuti.

The result is a visceral, often turbulent sound with a subversive edge, subjecting the listener to songs beyond a common pop structure 8.30pm- 2am £6adv from Trading Post £8otd

14TH Stroud Jazz Sessions presents: Dan Messore

Guitar virtuoso channelling jazz greats such as Bill Frisell and Pat Metheny whilst reaching across to more rhythmic and latin genres like Charlie Byrd. Stroud Jazz Sessions - a hub for all interested in jazz 8:30-11pm £5

21ST Leopard Lounge presents: Balloon Ascents & support

A monthly night of live acts, DJ's playing all sorts of loveliness, spoken word performances, jams, video and film, walk through performances and a healthy portion of good atmospherics. 7:30-11pm £5

28TH Music Doc with Harvey Brook

Documentary covering a Stax Records-sponsored all-day concert at the 1972 Watts Summer Festival with performances by Stax Records artists such as Isaac Hayes, Rufus Thomas, The Staples Singers, and more. Harvey Brook covering the often elusive and intriguingly complex underground music networks and movements, from grass roots and downward. 5.45-7pm £3 on the door. sva.org.uk

Twisted Fix**1ST/8TH/15TH/22ND/29TH** (The Dairy Free) Cheese Rollers

ROAR DJ's Intuition & J Keylex bringing the best in commercial & funky beats for your Friday night session £3 B4 11pm £4 after 10pm-3am

9TH Square Bomb presents:
Bomb Shelter

Three live bands + an after party
£5 9pm-3am

23RD DuBZ Quake

Main room (roots & culture):
Makaya Sound & Tafari Warriyah.
Room 2 (revival): King of Imperial
Sound playing on Majestic Vision
£5 B4 12 10pm-3am

30TH CLOUD 9

UK hardcorde, gabber, hardstyle
and Old Skool featuring: Outforce
& Enemy, The Criminal (special
main room Frenchcore set) plus lots
more...£8 10pm-5am
facebook.com/twisted.fix

Ruskin Mill**19TH** Leveret

Featuring three of England's finest

musicians in an exciting new
collaboration (Andy Cutting,
Sam Sweeney and Rob Harbron)
their music is firmly rooted in the
English tradition but is fresh and new,
with original settings of ancient
tunes sitting alongside new
compositions 7:30pm £15
(Nailsworth Festival)
rmt.org

The Convent**2ND** Sam Fearon

A young singer/songwriter from
Devon, creating a wall of sound
with his loop pedal 8-10pm
Members and up-to 4 guests Free

3RD Kara Grainger

Australian singer/songwriter and
guitarist combining classic song-
writing skills, smooth sultry vocals,
and the ability to whip up a storm
with a fiery slide guitar 8-10pm £15

8TH Louise Jordan

Now touring with her third album
'Veritas' singer, composer and
multi-instrumentalist Louise Jordan
merges award winning acoustic
song writing with a classical
sensitivity to create original works,
musical settings of literature and
unique arrangements of traditional
folk songs 8-10pm £15

10TH Fairport Convention

After one of the most successful
years in their career, Fairport
Convention takes to the road with
a new album of original songs.
Hailed as the creators of British
folk-rock music, the band members
retain their passion for live
performance making Fairport one
of the most entertaining bands
on the concert circuit 8-10pm £25

15TH Gilmore & Roberts

Twice-nominated at BBC Folk

Awards, contemporary folk/acoustic
duo Gilmore & Roberts combine
award-winning song writing with
astounding lap-tapping guitar,
fiery fiddle and their trademark
harmonies, creating a powerful wall
of sound 8-10pm £15

24TH Blair Dunlop

Award-winning British singer,
songwriter and guitarist "a vital
bridge between Brit folk's first and
latest flowerings" Q Magazine
8-10pm £15

26TH The Young'uns

Nominated for 'Best Group' at the
2015 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards.
Their irrepressible humour,
infectious love for harmony singing,
passion for storytelling and
commitment to maintaining the
tradition of social commentary has
quickly made them one of the most
sought after acts on the English folk
scene 8-10pm £15

theconvent.net



DRUM LESSONS

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SELECT FESTIVAL

GEMMA KAY WAGGETT

BY HELEN ELLIOTT-BOULT

SELECT FESTIVAL 2015 PRESENTED BY SITSELECT IS CURRENTLY IN ITS 9TH YEAR, AND TAKES PLACE THROUGHOUT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN AND AROUND THE STROUD VALLEYS SHOWCASING NEW, UPCOMING TALENT, ESTABLISHED LEADING INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS AND LOCAL FAVOURITES. SITSELECT SHOWS US THE VERY BEST OF CRAFT AND APPLIED ARTS WITH CONTEMPORARY DESIGN, THROUGH YEAR ROUND EXHIBITIONS, WORKSHOPS, TALKS AND SEMINARS AND AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

WITH A NATIONAL REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE SITSELECT AND THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL IS AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED.

One of the Exhibitions starring at Select Festival this year is Concerning Plants; so named as it is an exhibition taking inspiration from the plant world, botany and blooming England. The exhibition is curated by Gemma Kay Waggett and will feature the work of five specially chosen designers, each exploring their own botanical theme in 'lose realms' each with a sustainable element. Pieces vary from textiles, product design and ceramics to live bread making.

Gemma, who is from Stroud has recently completed her MA at the Royal College of Art, London and returned home to both set up shop, and find inspiration in the five valleys. She is a textile designer, using screen printing and embroidery and explores traditional techniques with up to date digital engineering.

Gemma and I met on a gloriously sunny day at her Stroud studio at the SVA. We were accompanied by her friendly, slightly short legged friend, Walter, the dachshund. We talked about the exhibition and her work so far:

Tell me about your work and inspirations;

I studied printed textiles for my BA, then mixed media textiles, focusing on embroidery for my MA, both led by graphic pattern, quite geometric with a slight twist. I'm really interested in how hand techniques can be translated digitally and vice versa. I aim to create fabrics and designs with mystery - where you're not really sure how they're made.

I take inspiration from everything around me, from nature, to patterns in the built environment and charity shop finds. I'm a hoarder of images and materials for inspiration. My artistic influence would be Gary Hume as he uses bold shapes, colours and unusual textures.

I would describe my work in three words as; Geometric - Tactile - Irregular

What is your pop up shop?

It's called Nothing but Navy (NBN) and it started in Stroud in December 2011, I've held 12 events so far, in both London, Stroud, Bristol and Wales, where I bring my collection and set up a small shop, open to the public to come and purchase independent, exclusive products, all carefully curated by me, that are Navy. The online shop can be found at nothingbutnavyshop.com

Why Navy?

It's my very favourite colour and always has been; I feel it's ageless, timeless and classic and everyone can find something they like in Navy, whether it's a greetings card, cushion, table cloth or print. I think it's suitable for all the family and genderless which is often hard to find.

What impact would you like your work to inspire?

I'd like it to inspire Joy. I'd like people to buy a piece of my work and keep it forever; I don't see my designs as throw away.

How has the traditional textiles industry influenced your work?

There has been a recent resurgence of traditional crafts, which is great. I use traditional techniques in a new way, such as traditional weaving methods that I translate into hand and machine



Photos by Alex Petch

embroidery. Weaving mills and heritage is really important for future technologies, as is the understanding of how things are made. Stroud has a huge heritage in this industry which has probably influenced me too.

Did you always plan to come home to Stroud?

I think so; I completed my MA in London which I really enjoyed, but it's always so busy there. I got my studio here at the SVA in November 2014 which is great, as it allows me the freedom and accessibility to work for myself and be part of this artistic community.

Where are you going next with your textiles?

Well, hopefully working on commissions, bringing in exclusive pieces at NBN and I'm working on an exciting new project with Clarks

for Spring/Summer 2016 where my designs will appear on shoes! The most attractive fact about fabric, is that it's everywhere, which means I can go anywhere with it. There are new technologies emerging all the time which impact my work and how I create, so I will continue to travel and expand my source of influence to keep producing new and interesting pieces.

So, if you too, would like to meet Gemma and Walter and discover her work; Concerning Plants can be seen in the windows of the shop in Bedford Street (opposite Burger Star) from Saturday 2nd May until Monday 25th May. Check out sitselect.org for full listings and information.

SITselect will also be taking Gemma to the Clerkenwell Design Festival 19 – 22 May along with ceramist Billy Lloyd and Joseph Hartley.

Don't miss the Select Trail with 45 amazing artists opening their studios and planning artist led exhibitions 9/10 and 16/17 May. Pick up a free brochure for the festival or go on line to check out the brochure.

gemma kaywaggett.com

Helen Elliott-Boult is a Stroud newbie, but long time admirer. She is an art enthusiast, short story dabbler, music and dance admirer and survivor of Media and Art school.

SITE FESTIVAL

OPEN STUDIOS

BY SIOBAIN DRURY

OPEN STUDIOS HAS BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE SITE FESTIVAL ORGANISED BY STROUD VALLEY ARTSPACE FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

This year, artists' studios will be open on the weekends of May 9th & 10th and May 16th & 17th. Over 80 artists around the Stroud valleys will open their doors to the public for viewings, sales and chat. There are six distinct "routes" you can take and if the weather is good you get to sample some beautiful countryside to boot.

For participating artists this is an opportunity to sell work and attract commissions. The range of creativity is extraordinary: from traditional painting to printmaking, mixed media, three dimensional and contemporary conceptual works.

This is a rare chance, not only to see the work of artists' but to experience the environment in which they work: the physical workspace as well as some of the inspiration, resources and tools the artists themselves use.

Each studio is different, some you will find in homes, artists' communities, or re-purposed creative environments. Each artist will also approach the event differently - some will carefully frame and display originals and prints for viewing and sale while others will take a more informal approach. There

will be those who are happy to chat for a while and others that are shy of self-promotion. This is a fantastic opportunity to get to know the people behind the work.

A good place to start is the Subscription Rooms' Taster Exhibition where each artist showcases one piece of work that gives a flavour of what can be seen in their studio. This is a brilliant way to plan your own tour.

Personally, I always enjoy visiting SVA - partly because there are lots of people in one place but also because there are so many different disciplines. The sculpture and textile studios are always lively. Claire Stratton's sculptural jewellery is just beautiful, Zoe Heath's fragile surfaces are lovely and Maggie Shaw's paintings are especially pleasing. New at SVA this year is textiles phenomenon Gemma Kay Waggett, as well as innovative work from David Evans and concept-based visual artist Holly English.

This year there is a focus on artists "hubs," where there are a number of artists working in the same or adjacent venues. On the Bisley route is Piccadilly Mill that hosts Nadine James, Christina Bingle, Anita Brayford and Hannah Ferguson. Not to be missed on your way there is Kate Loveday's studio, Kate's work is highly desirable with a sublime handling of colour and her home and gardens are a real treat.

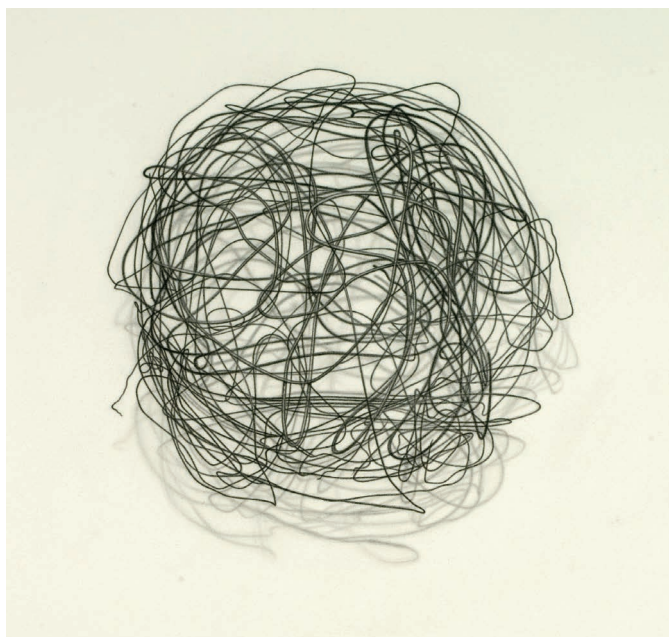
The Chalford route boasts clusters of artists at Victoria Works and Hallidays Mill, so close to Lavendar Bakehouse it would be rude not to pop in for a cake stop. Kerry Phippen is now based at Hallidays Mill and her beautiful and subtle drawings of animals have to be seen. The buildings around here are fantastic and at St. Mary's Mill you can find a piece of Stroud's textile history whilst looking at Sally Hampson's rural inspired woven textiles.

Further afield in Painswick, Colin Glen and Alex Merry should be on your list and then over in Wotton-Under-Edge, the Lloyd-Joneses at Coombe Hill House will provide you with an ample visual feast.

The SVA produces a lavish catalogue filled with maps and artist contact details. It is available now from the Farmers' Market, cafés, shops, the SVA and online at www.sva.org.uk

If you are considering participating yourself, start thinking about it now and put together a body of work for next year. Contact Briony (briony@sva.org.uk) at the SVA for more details.

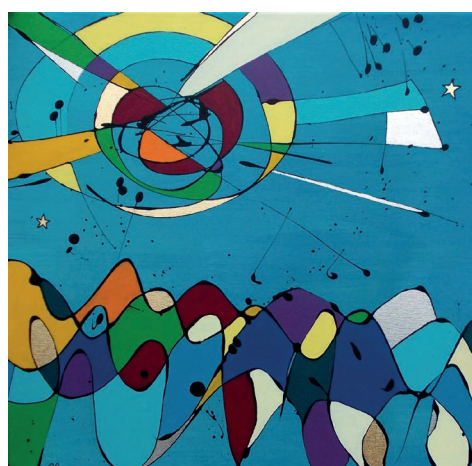
Siobain Drury is an artist and mentor with over twenty years experience in lecturing in Art & Design. Her own work is concerned with a bricolage of techniques that explore ideas around nostalgia, mortality and image.



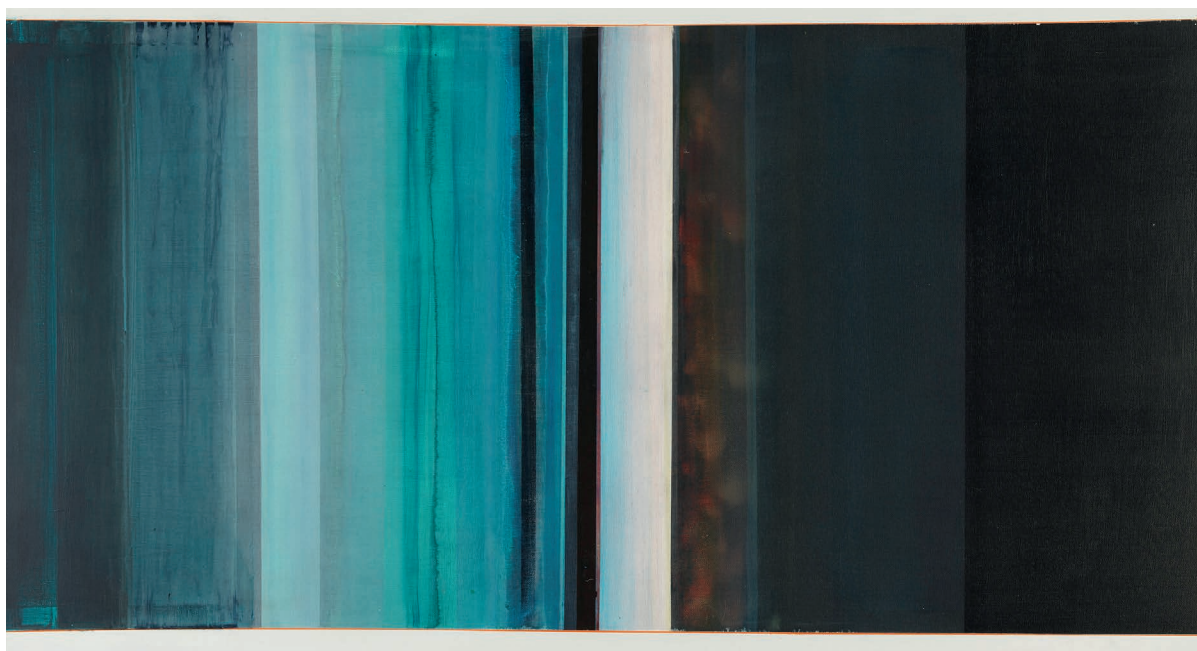
Colin Glen



Zoe Heath



Hannah Ferguson



Maggie Shaw

ART LISTINGS

Ale House

1ST APRIL - 31ST MAY

Adam White and Amery Blow:
We Are All Hunted Animals

Giant innovative watercolours developed over 20 years by humble watercolourist Adam White.

Amery Blow will be joining Adam with his Animal inspired sculpture pieces 6-9pm (Site Festival)
sitefestival.co.uk

Bedford Street

2ND - 25TH

Concerning Plants

Featuring the work of five leading designers who are all currently exploring themes of the botanical through their practice. Just as the botanical world encompasses many varied stages and elements, the show will also include work in several forms from textiles, product design to ceramics and live making. The exhibition will present the work of Katherine May, Hazel Stark, Marcin Rusak and Gemma Kay Waggett See p10-11 (Select Festival)

sitselect.org

Bisley House

1ST APRIL - 31ST MAY

Lorraine Roberts & Soozy
Roberts: Cream

An exhibition including photographs, drawings and collage, within a relaxed cafe/bar/restaurant setting Tues-Sat 11am-11pm/Sun 11am-9pm (Site Festival)

bisleyhousecafe.co.uk

Gallery Pangolin

20TH APRIL - 29TH MAY

Toro!

Sculpture and works on paper by Nick Bibby, Jon Buck, Lynn Chadwick, Robert Clatworthy, Terence Coventry, Nicola Hicks, Marcus James, Anita Mandl and Mick Ponting exploring and celebrating the bull, a formidable beast with mythological significance. The centrepiece of the show is a powerful series of life-size drawings by new gallery artist, Marcus James Mon-Fri 10am-6pm/Sat 10am-1pm (Site Festival)

gallery-pangolin.com

Museum in the Park

18TH APRIL - 31ST MAY

Tara Downs & Bart Sabel:
The Friction Project - A Miniature Museum of Museums

Produced by Flow Contemporary Arts the project presents a unique interactive artwork inspired by the collections of three Gloucestershire Museums. Visitors are invited to explore their intriguing inventions through touch, sound and movement. Flow is led by Carolyn Black and funded by the Arts Council England Tues-Fri 10am-5pm/Sat-Sun 11am-4pm (Site Festival)

2ND-25TH

Power of Ten: Curated by Andy Christian

Andy Christian has sought out those whose work might unsettle the viewers, in the hope that visitors might leave this exhibition viewing the world in a slightly different way. He has tried to avoid the decorative in favour of works that might provoke a sense of disquiet or invoke wonder. Artists exhibiting are Susanna Bauer, Ann Goddard, Sumi Perera, Anne Jackson, Kerry Jameson, Susie Gillespie, Katy Luxton, Shuna Rendel, Rozanne Hawksley and Caroline Dear. Tues-Fri 10am-5pm/Sat-Sun 11am-4pm (Select Festival)

2ND-25TH

Ruth Harris: Red Cross Series

The 'Red Cross Series' reflects on the invaluable work of the Red Cross Organization and the role of women during WW1. Using mixed media, the Crosses re-present the diverse range of manual jobs including upholstery, trimming and other skilled operatives, undertaken by women. The Red Cross was instrumental in organising the constant supply of soldiers' clothing; many essential knitted and sewn items were produced at home from socks to patient's operation gowns. It is this work; the skills employed and the act of repeated process that Ruth Harris has considered in the 'Red Cross Series' (Select Festival) Tues-Fri 10am-5pm/Sat-Sun 11am-4pm

2ND-25TH

Jill Carter: Things We Take With Us

Discover Jill Carter's quirky, dark and engaging work. Often inspired by journeys, both real and imagined,

physical and emotional landscapes, individual and collective hopes and dreams, memories and associations. This exhibition is showing in Gallery 2. Please be aware that this is a multi-use space and opening hours vary from day to day, to avoid disappointment call ahead on 01453 763394 (Select Festival)

museuminthepark.org.uk

No 23

12TH APRIL - 10TH MAY

Nick Fanstone

Local photographer Nick Fanstone showing previously never exhibited work

Oxfam

2ND - 25TH

Jan Ollis: It's A Floral Affair

The Rural Flower show intrigues me. Often unassuming but in reality the gift of growing the perfect flower and forming them into stunning displays seem unachievable to those of us who do not possess green fingers. The rivalry contrasts the camaraderie involved, the knowledge that soon perfection will disappear and die, so much effort for a brief moment of glory, or even disappointment. Knitting, crochet and sewing have been used to create each flower, grown from many endeavours. Each awarded a prize (Select Festival)

sitselect.org

Lansdown Hall

27TH APR-3RD MAY

Timeless - the Art of Black & White Photography

10 local artists including Jonny Barratt, Sylvain Guenot, Ruth Davey, Fred Chance, James Kriszyk, Jessica Jackson and Lauren Seatter explore the art of black and white photography. Each artist is invited to show 4 pieces in black and white that represents them, their style and their approach to photography. There will also be an opportunity to talk to the photographers on Saturday 2nd May as the artists discuss their own approach to their work and offer valuable tips for everything from setting up, using smart phone photography, printing and framing 10am-5pm

5TH - 23RD

Quinary Textile Group: Locating

'Locating' is an exhibition of textile inspired art by the Group Quinary featuring Val Cross, Marilyn Hall, Caroline Hibbs, Denise Jones and Jean Kirk who are also joined by Kay Swancutt, Monica Bruckner (Germany) and Ingrid Lincoln (Canada). Brought together from diverse backgrounds to research and make textiles, this is the group's third exhibition following earlier work exploring traces. All the works incorporate a sense of movement, fluidity and change. They engage with our need to map, to search, pause and reflect, and are appropriately imagined in printed, constructed and stitched textile. Meet the artists in the gallery on the 9th May at 11am (Select Festival)
lansdownhall.org

Select Trail

9TH/10TH & 16TH/17TH

Over two weekends in the month of May artists will be opening their studios to the public as part of the annual Select Trail organized by SITselect. Artists who specialise in textiles and contemporary crafts will welcome the public to visit their private spaces to meet them and discuss their work.

Weaving through the glorious Stroud Valleys to Nailsworth to Cirencester visitors will discover studios in gardens, old redundant Mills, attics, and contemporary spaces all will be opening their doors.

sitselect.org

Site Festival Open Studios

9TH/10TH & 16TH/17TH

See p12-13 11am-6pm
sitefestival.org.uk

Subscription Rooms

1ST - 17TH

Site Festival Open Studios Taster Exhibition

Provides the perfect opportunity for planning your visits to the studios, workshops or homes of the artists exhibiting as part of the Site Festival Open Studios to see and buy their original artwork. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

16TH

Selvedge Spring Fair

Expect a delightfully curated range of

antique textiles, ceramics, handcrafted jewellery and woven baskets 9am-4pm (Select Festival)

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

SVA

7TH APRIL-2ND MAY

Andy Holden with Ivy Leeson and Secluded Bronte: Its Only Bondage Was the Circling Sky

Andy Holden presents two collaborations which both expound on the impact of technology on the landscape and mental ecology of rural Britain; firstly with the implementation of the enclosures act in the 1830's and secondly with the introduction of broadband to the provinces at the end of the twentieth century. Tuesday-Sunday 11am-6pm Roberts and Robbins (Site Festival)

2ND

Breakfast discussion with Andy Holden and Guy Gormley

Meet Andy Holden and hear more about his Site Festival exhibition. Guy Gormley (BRICKHOUSE) will be asking questions and encouraging discussion. A hearty breakfast will be

served with a plentiful fresh coffee. £5 breakfast included 11am booking essential email: office@sva.org.uk (Site Festival)

9TH-30TH

Shop

An artist's shop of affordable multiple artworks, including, original artworks, prints, badges, jewellery, cushions, ceramics and more, from a variety of artists, local and beyond. Tues, Fri and Sat 10am-4pm Sun 10th/ 17th 10am-5pm Roberts and Robbins sva.org.uk

Sofa & Stuff

2ND - 25TH

Beastly Magic

10 contemporary applied artists exhibit work ranging from textiles, ceramics, paintings and woven willow. The work is fun, inspiring and you will not be able to resist wanting to take it home.

Featuring Kerry Phippen, Annie Hutchinson, Karen Suzuki, Francesca Chalk, Mary Crabb, Sarah Burghard, Andy Hau, Boo and the Angel, Vicki Atkinson, Grace Lane with Threadbare Productions plus four contemporary wall paper designers: Badgers of Bohemia,

Daniel Heath, Cole & Son and Tracy Kendall Mon-Fri 10am-5:30pm/Sun 11am-4pm Woodchester Mill (Select Festival)

sitselect.org

Upper Lock Cafe

22ND APRIL-31ST MAY

Rachel Beckett

Rachel has always been fascinated by pattern, colour and the natural world. Graduating in History of Art from St John's College, Cambridge, she applied her knowledge both to her career as an editor and to her ongoing artistic work. She later took an MA in illustration, focusing on wood engraving, though she also paints in a range of media Mon-Sat 10am-4pm/ Sun 10am-3pm

upperlockcafe.co.uk

Victoria Works

9TH-10TH & 16TH-17TH

Penny Burnfield: Dust to Dust

This piece was made for the '10 Days' Arts Festival, held at Winchester in October 2013. It was shown in the Cathedral where Penny was fascinated by the multiplicity

of memorials and gravestones which are everywhere, on the walls, under our feet. The figures are based on Penny's family, a Memento Mori for the 2000s. Many thanks go to Alwyn Marriage for her poem which was specially written for this piece 10am-4pm (Select Festival)

9TH-10TH & 16TH-17TH

Stroud College Textile Foundation Students Exhibition

Students on the Foundation Diploma in Art and Design and those in their second year of study on the Extended Diploma in Fashion and Textiles at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College have been included in this year's Select trail. This fantastic opportunity to exhibit means that students learn to view their work in the context of the wider Artisan calendar. The Exhibition is their personal response to their recent study trip to Rome and the development of their ideas from initial concepts through to final swatches of fabric or garments 10am-4pm (Select Festival)

facebook.com/VictoriaWorksStudios

TORO!

Sculpture and works on paper exploring & celebrating 'the bull' in all its guises

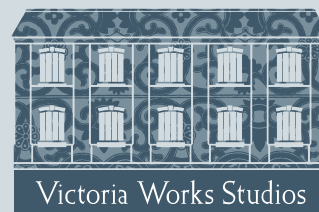
Until 29th May



Atalaya Toro Sam Herman

GALLERY PANGOLIN

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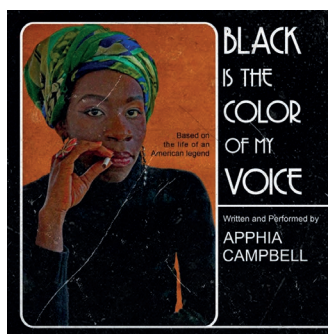
For more details please contact:

07970 224470
VictoriaWorksStudios@gmail.com

THEATRE PREVIEWS

BY JOHN BASSETT

John Bassett is an actor, writer and the director of Stroud Theatre Festival and Spaniel in the Works Theatre Company



SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

31st May 7.30pm

£ 12 adv £ 10.00
(concessions)

APPHIA CAMPBELL: BLACK IS THE COLOUR OF MY VOICE

Inspired by the life of Nina Simone, Apphia Campbell's hit one-woman show follows jazz musician and civil rights activist Mena Bordeaux.

Trying to cope with her father's untimely death, the singer travels to Liberia to perform a cleansing ritual. She is to spend three days in solitude, with no alcohol, cigarettes, or communication with the outside world in order to "face the past and move on to the future." In one room with a bed, an unplugged phone and a suitcase, she recalls her biggest

joys and disappointments using memorable items from her childhood and adolescence - her first concert dress, the hats her mother wore on special occasions, love letters and other sentimental trifles.

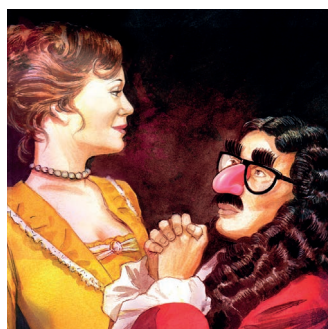
During a three-day spiritual cleanse, Mena reflects on the journey that took her from a piano prodigy destined for a life serving the church to a renowned jazz vocalist at the forefront of the Civil Rights Movement.

Apphia Campbell is an American actress and singer who studied

drama in New York and created the show whilst working as a drama teacher in Shanghai. In the course of the show she sings a variety of Simone's songs, including "I Put a Spell On You," "Love Me or Leave Me" and "Feeling Good."

The performance at the Subscription Rooms is part of a UK wide tour after sold-out performances in Shanghai, NYC and the Edinburgh Festival Fringe,

'Black Is the Color of My Voice shines' (Time Out Shanghai)



COTSWOLD PLAYHOUSE

15th May 7:30pm £11

BRISTOL OLD VIC THEATRE SCHOOL: THE BEAUX STRATAGEM

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School is one of the most successful and well-respected conservatoire drama schools in the UK attracting the very best talent in students and staff.

In May as part of their West Country Tour they are bringing George Farquhar's classic play the Beaux Stratagem to Cotswold Playhouse.

One of the finest Restoration Comedies of the age, Farquhar knits together a panoply of stock and 'not so stock' characters, weaving plots and sub plots in an 18th Century 'One Man Two Governors', where not all is as it seems and the country folk of Lichfield are not quite as dumb as we think.

Rakes, Lovers, Desperate Housewives, Herbal Healers and Horse Thieves will all be present in this lively comedy which is touring to 22 venues in the south west and featuring some of the best on the new talent on stage.

THEATRE

LISTINGS

Cotswold Playhouse

1ST BurntOut Theatre: Muscovado

'How come the cane taste so sweet, yet feasts on my blood?'

Muscovado is the scorching new play by Matilda Ibini about slavery in Nineteenth Century Barbados. A heady mix of sexual intrigue, piercing choral music and extreme racial tension, Muscovado provides an unflinching portrayal of life on a sugar plantation in 1808, accompanied by an original musical score and atmospheric soundscapes 7:30pm £12

9TH Traffic of the Stage: The Education of a Lap Dancer

Immigrant workers in the sex industry... Stressed out teachers in the public sector.... Violence and racial tension in the inner city. East Europeans trying to make a fast euro... This is the London at the sharp end at the cutting edge.

John Cooper's latest play examines the growing ethnic diversity of contemporary London and looks at values and morals in a rapidly changing post-colonial culture. Under the spotlight is the pressure on those at the frontline of public sector education with its controversial policies of political correctness and positive discrimination.

But the play also deals with the erotic and sensual undertow in multi-cultural London where sex, as ever, is a powerful and irresistible driving force 7:30pm £12

cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk

Giffords Circus

15TH-18TH Moon Songs

Fennels Farm, Lypiatt, Nr Stroud

Enter the world of the Victorian Luna Park, a fairground world being run by larger-than-life illusionist and man of magic and mystery, Odoroff, and his Little Man assistant, David. Bibi & Bichu bring their cousins from Ethiopia, (all twelve of them) and Orodoff tries (and fails) to direct this giant troupe of dancing gymnasts. Clown Tweedy is shot from a cannon and then turns himself into the man in the moon, the bear gallops past on a pony, the carousel horses come to life, the weather in the tent turns wintry, the jugglers are suddenly upside down, the little man laughs and chaos reigns in this topsy-turvy lunatic world. See website for show times £22 Adults/£14 Children Call Box Office on 0845 459 7469 giffordscircus.com

Subscription Rooms

21ST Spaniel in the Works Theatre Company: Bernard and Beatrice's Complete Guide to Modern Art

Can you tell your Arp from your Miro? Does the concept of conceptual art confuse you? What do you deduce from Dada and Dali? Op art? Pop art? Fauvism? Surrealism? What does it all mean? WHAT IS ART? "Leading art critics2 Bernard Beardsley and Beatrice Botticelli answer these and other questions in this lively, funny, sometimes irreverent performance looking at the history of modern art from Duchamp's urinal to Damien's cow 7:30pm £10

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

Vue Cinema

5TH The Royal Opera House

La Fille Mal Gardée (live) 7pm

10th The Royal Opera House

La Fille Mal Gardée (Encore - live) 1.45pm

14TH National Theatre

Man and Superman (live) 6.45pm

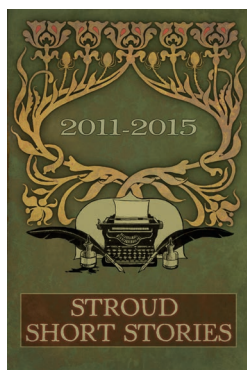
19TH English National Opera

The Pirates of Penzance (live) 7.15pm
myvue.com

Whiteway Colony Hall

10TH Everyman Theatre: Business As Usual

With their husbands and boyfriends fighting for freedom in France during World War One, the womenfolk of Gloucestershire determine that it must be 'Business As Usual' on the home front. A tale of courage, grit and a liberal smattering of humour. Presented by the Everyman Theatre's professional company of actors to commemorate the centenary of the First World War (as part of the Gloucestershire Remembers World War 1 project) 7:45pm £8
everymantheatre.org.uk



STROUD SHORT STORIES

BY JAMIE BALDWIN

FOLLOWING THE RECENT SUCCESS OF THE LATEST STROUD SHORT STORIES EVENING HELD AT THE STROUD VALLEY ARTSPACE IN APRIL, A NEW ANTHOLOGY FEATURING THE BEST OF STROUD'S THRIVING SHORT STORY WRITERS IS ABOUT TO BE LAUNCHED. I CAUGHT UP WITH STROUD SHORT STORIES ORGANISER, JOHN HOLLAND, AND ANTHOLOGY EDITOR, NIMUE BROWN, TO FIND OUT MORE AT BLACK BOOKS CAFE, NATURALLY.

So John, what inspired you to set up Stroud Short Stories?

It was actually a chap called Bill Jones who founded it. He previously read his fiction at short story nights in Brighton and wanted to create a similar night in Stroud, where stories were chosen from submissions on the basis of quality, from complete novices to published writers. His initial worry as a newcomer to Stroud was that the town might not be able to provide enough authors to fill a night with high-quality stories. How little he knew! The most recent event sold out within a week. I got involved as an audience member, and then submitted a story which I read at the 2012 spooky night

event. I started organising the event last year.

And Nimue, how does the new Anthology fit into the Stroud Short Story events?

The anthology is a collection of the last four years' short-listed submissions read out at the events. There are 80 stories in total from 56 authors; virtually all of those presented. All of this year's shortlist are included: we've got everything from a woman who dreams a recipe for losing weight to suicidal cows.

Is Stroud a hotbed of short story creativity and writing careers?

Stroud is a hotbed for creativity, never mind short story writing. But yes, there are 50 short story writers in Stroud we're aware of, and probably double that in reality. It's great, although for writers there's little, if any, money in it! Ninety per cent of authors will earn nothing, and around five per cent will earn less than a couple of grand. It's not a wise career choice. If you don't love it, it will probably kill you!

What key tips would you give to a complete novice who wants to have a go at writing a short story?

Reading is the obvious one! Shortly followed by simply giving it a go. What's remarkable about the anthology is the variety of new

writers represented alongside more experienced ones: first-timers can often bring a very fresh approach and that's just fantastic. Sharing your work is a real confidence builder so get involved in a writing circle if you can, or have a writing buddy you share stories with. Finally, we find reading aloud can help you find out if something doesn't sound quite right.

How short can a short story be?

The anthology features stories as short as 100 words, up to about 1,500 words. Anything under 1,000 words is considered 'flash fiction'. The shorter you get the nearer to poetry it becomes.

Tell me a bit about how you both got into writing short stories?

John: I used to write gags for Punch magazine and radio sketches whilst working as a librarian. When I retired I took a creative writing and cookery course. I much preferred the cookery, but the short story writing took hold. It's a bit like gag-writing, so lots of my early work was gag-related but I've branched out a bit now. I find it hard work but get a wonderful feeling writing.

Nimue: I got into writing at college, and loved the versatility of short stories. I've been exploring it ever since then. Story-telling is so essential to human society; it's

how we express ourselves. There's a great quote from Neil Gaiman who said 'we have a duty to tell other people's stories'.

Interested in turning your hand to short stories?

Submissions for the next Stroud Short Stories event open in August. Check out www.stroudshortstories.blogspot.com to get on the email list.

There are several Stroud-based writing groups: Stroud Writer's Circle meet monthly, as do Stroud Out Loud at the Subscription Rooms (www.strouddoutloud.com). Stroud Valley Artspace and Hawkwood College both hold regular courses and workshops on creative and short story writing.

Buy the book

There's an official launch of the Anthology at The Alehouse in Stroud on 8th May, which people are being encouraged to attend. It's a free event and the book will be on sale for £10. Check the Stroud Short Stories website for more details on how to get your hands on a copy at www.stroudshortstories.blogspot.com.

Jamie Baldwin is a renewable energy specialist with a background as a freelance journalist for the BBC, Discovery Channel and Panos International.

LITERATURE LISTINGS



Jenny Barton Writing Workshops

10TH

Writing the Journey: Stories of Motherhood

A safe and structured small group for mothers using creative exercises to support you in telling and honouring the life-changing experiences of pregnancy, birth and beyond 10am-3pm £40 (including tea and homemade cake but bring a packed lunch!) Woodruffs Cafe

4TH/11TH/18TH/25TH

Writers' Studio

A warm, facilitated environment in which to write, share and discuss. Develop a consistent writing practice with the support of the group 7:30-9:30pm £10/week For further details contact 07969 612230 / purplejennyrose@gmail.com

Hawkwood College

16TH

Jay Ramsay: Poetic Edges

This course will help you to find new possibilities of expression through the written word, working with a series of brilliant original exercises to extend your receptivity and imagination. Sharing your work and receiving supportive critique will ensure that you will touch on your creative "edges" and progress in your craft. Suitable for all levels of experience 9am-5:30pm £65 including lunch

hawkwoodcollege.co.uk

Star Anise Arts Cafe

15TH

Steve Pottinger

An accomplished performance poet whose latest book 'More Bees Bigger Bonnets' has received praise from poets Tony 'Longfella' Walsh, Joelle Taylor, and Attila the Stockbroker (among others). His poems are sometimes personal,

sometimes political, often comic, and beautifully crafted 7:30pm Free

staraniseartscafe.com

Subscription Rooms

13TH

Scriptwriting

A monthly group for anyone who is interested in scriptwriting for theatre, radio or television. These groups will offer an opportunity to share scripts that you may already have, to develop new works and meet other writers. The group is hosted by John Bassett from Spaniel in the Works Theatre, Stroud Theatre Festival and Good On Paper Theatre columnist! 7-9pm

29TH

Stroud Out Loud!

Monthly spoken word showcase featuring poetry, storytelling, stand-up, monologues and more 7:30pm Free

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

The Convent

28TH

James Runcie: In Conversation with James Long

The writer, award-winning filmmaker and son of an Archbishop, and flaneur, James Runcie, will be the sixth event in The Convent's exclusive literary series, programmed by Sixth Voice.

James Runcie is the author of 'The Grantchester Mysteries', which have been adapted to become the ITV/PBS Masterpiece series 'Grantchester'.

Runcie is joined by author James Long to discuss his latest novel 'Sidney Chambers and The Forgiveness of Sins', based on the adventures of clergyman-detective 'Canon Sidney Chambers' whose tales can be described as Father Brown with attitude 7:30-8:30pm £10

theconvent.net

Nailsworth Festival

18TH

Dinah Jefferies: In Conversation

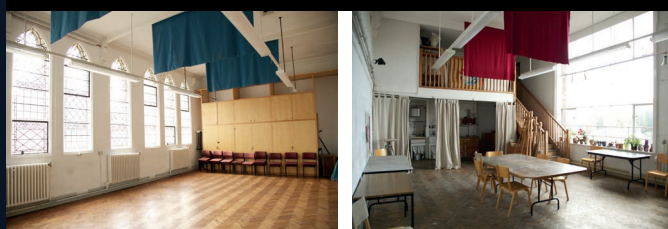
Bestselling Gloucestershire author Dinah Jefferies was born in Malaysia and moved to England at the age of nearly nine, experiences she has woven into The Separation, her stunning debut novel about a family torn apart by lies. No stranger to drama herself, she has lived in a 'rock 'n roll' commune, worked as an au pair for a countess in Tuscany and been an exhibiting artist. Her next book The Tea Planter's Wife will be out in August 7:30pm £5 Egypt Mill

23RD

Roger McGouch: As Far as I Know

A new book of poems by Roger McGouch is always an event and As Far As I Know is truly a cause for celebration. Hilarious and surreal, he is a poet of many voices. Menace and melancholy there may be, but with plenty of McGouch's characteristic wit and wordplay too. The book also features It Never Rains, a collection of new comical verses and superb drawings by the author, at no extra charge. Newly elected President of the Poetry Society he has also been honoured with a CBE for services to literature 7:30pm £15 Nailsworth Town Hall

nailsworthfestival.org.uk



KERRY PHIPPEN

STROUD BASED ARTIST KERRY PHIPPEN WAS BORN AND RAISED IN PERTHSHIRE, BUT HAS LIVED IN THE STROUD AREA SINCE 1999. HER INSPIRATION COMES FROM A LIFELONG LOVE OF ANIMALS IN PARTICULAR DEER, HORSES, FOXES AND BIRDS OF PREY; AS WELL AS HER EARLY YEARS INFLUENCE OF FAIRY TALES AND THEIR ANIMAL SYMBOLISM.

Her drawings and paintings veer from large scale intricate and detailed acrylic paintings on domestic wallpapers to more delicate and gentle ink paintings on handmade papers. Kerry has exhibited her work and received several awards in many prestigious venues in the UK including The Royal Academy, Royal Scottish Academy, RWA and the Jerwood Drawing Space. She also has an ink drawing 'Ghoul School' in the permanent collection of The British Museum. In 2012, Kerry won the Finest Drawing at the National Open Art Prize and in 2013 was awarded Best Watercolour at the RWA in Bristol.

Kerry is also a popular and enthusiastic drawing tutor, running workshops in the Stroud area.

kerryhippenart.com / @kerryhippen



Red Swan and Ugly Duckling



Three's a crowd

Forthcoming Exhibitions:

Select Festival 'Beastly Magic'

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2nd – 25th May

Site Festival Open Studios

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& 16th- 17th May

Nature into Art @ Nailsworth Festival

St Georges Church, Nailsworth
16th- 17th May



Buck

GOOD ON PAPER

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